

Greener Live Performances

through energy efficiency

Energy Efficiency Induction Program

Presentation template for venues, production companies, tours and festivals



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Including Energy Efficiency in your Induction or ongoing Staff Training program reinforces the importance of integrating effective energy efficiency actions in your organisation, and positions you as a leader on this issue for the live performance industry.

Various employees and contractors are already required to participate in a comprehensive safety induction program. This Energy Efficiency induction insert is designed to be a complementary addition that can be embedded into current induction and staff training processes.

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The aim of this training template is to:

- Ensure that venues, production companies, tours, festivals and events are presenting live performances in the most energy efficient way, as appropriate for the venue, festival site or event;
- Create energy efficiency expectations when working with presenting performance companies or artists;
- Alert industry specialists, administrative staff and technicians to some of the commonly overlooked opportunities for efficiency; and
- Draw awareness to energy consumption practices that might be particular to:
 - Different venue types i.e. heritage-listed venues, venues with restaurants or cinemas or galleries, small regional venues.
 - Different festival or event types i.e. mains power, mobile generation, rural setting or metropolitan areas.

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Introduction

Performance stages use energy (electricity) to power:

- lighting;
- audio;
- LED screens;
- projection equipment; and
- many other special effects.

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Electricity Sources

Electricity can be sourced from

- Permanent mains power; or
- Temporary mobile generation plant.

Regardless of where energy is sourced, reinforcing a mindset of efficiency through all levels of the team will reduce the amount of energy required to power an event/show/concert, and subsequently save money.

The Top 8 Energy Efficiency Actions

1. Recognise energy is precious
2. Design for purpose
3. Plan – then plan again
4. Make comparisons
5. Talk to specialists
6. Collect data & measure results
7. Share the experience
8. Consistently improve

1. Recognise energy is precious

Fossil-fuel based energy is sourced from non-renewable materials that once used, can never be replaced or replenished.

Energy use comes with a cost. Not only in financial terms, but also environmental and global.

Treat power generated from fossil fuels as precious and you will immediately find ways to use less.

2. Design for Purpose

Regardless of the type of design required i.e. lighting, sound, stage, festival, tour or building; take the time to accurately calculate what power you need and justify why you need that much.

As an outcome of an energy efficient design process - needs based design will instantly reduce power requirements and remove unnecessary waste.

3. Plan. Then plan again.

Identify your need. It might be a power source, stage lighting plot, sound system or internal temperature control.

Plan for that need.

Ask yourself, “What could I do without? What is surplus to my need?”

Then, refine the plan – using less energy.

4. Make comparisons

When investigating equipment (heating/cooling, lighting, sound, special effects, transportation, freight) for installation or use, compare energy consumption requirements.

Actively make the choice to use equipment/services that use less energy, while upholding a standard use expectation.

Utilising energy efficient equipment will not only save operational budget over the long-term, but may also reduce associated labour and consumables costs.

5. Talk to specialists

Don't take on the process of integrating energy efficiency alone. Engage with equipment specialists to keep abreast of new technologies and efficiency improvements.

When in need, work with consultants. They have broad networks and are generally aware of improvement processes that might be right for your needs.

6. Collect the data and measure results

Collect all energy related data, as appropriate to your need. Use this data to determine the success or failure of improvement opportunities implemented.

Effective measurement = Effective management of energy requirements.

Communicate the results achieved. Use data collected and analysed to easily communicate the success of the program throughout the team, and give management confidence and momentum to proceed with further improvements.

Measuring results will highlight any problems quickly, allowing for prompt adjustment to get things back on track.

7. Share the experience

To achieve solid cultural change and effectively reduce the reliance on fossil fuels for power generation, we must share the experience with others.

Involvement in community platforms such as the Greener Live Performances LinkedIn group will give you an opportunity to share your story: either your experience or your success.

Sharing also provides an opportunity to learn from others.

8. Consistently improve

Embarking on an energy efficiency program is not a quick fix solution to budget worries. Successful efficiency programs unfold over the short, medium and long term. Opportunities for improvement will be implemented at different times – depending on scheduling and budget requirements.

It is important to investigate what can be changed/improved now and what needs to happen later. Take action on those immediate improvements whilst planning to take on the, often harder or more expensive improvements, later.

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Greener Live Performances through Energy Efficiency – Information Portal

This is the online hub for all things energy efficiency related in the live performance industry.

Refer to:

http://liveperformance.com.au/greener_live_performances/resources

Performance Venues – Technical Resources

- Online GHG Calculator
- Energy efficient venues checklist
- Energy efficient public area lighting – factsheet
- Energy efficient stage lighting – design guide
- Retrofit HVAC in venues – design guide
- Building Management System (BMS) information kit
- Managing peak demand – design guide
- Energy efficiency in venue hire kits – management guide

Production & Touring Company - Resources

- Energy efficient stage lighting - factsheet
- Energy efficient stage lighting – checklist
- The rise of LED screens – factsheet
- King Kong the Musical – case study
- LPA IG Tool
- Energy efficient touring - factsheet
- Energy efficient touring - checklist
- Tour energy audit – factsheet
- The Lost Property Rules – video

Festivals & Events – Technical Resources

- Energy efficient outdoor events – Temporary Power – factsheet
- Energy efficient outdoor events – Mains Power – factsheet
- Designing an energy efficient outdoor event – checklist
- SEMS Tool
- Outdoor event power – The players, the issues, the challenges
- Energy efficient outdoor events – recorded webinar

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For further information:

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